

potential as ethical, involved citizens and life-long learners guided by a professional, compassionate staff who provide a challenging, creative, and meaningful education." With their mission statement in mind, Diegueño offers many programs and services to support the learning and development of middle school age students, including a rigorous core academic program expected by their community and mandated by the state. In addition, their newly networked and technologically equipped campus supports the goals of developing students' technological skills and connecting them to an increasingly global interaction with the world. Their elective program, lunchtime activities, after school programs, classes and sports teams offered in conjunction with the City of Encinitas and the Boys and Girls' Club help students to discover interests which support and enhance their academic efforts. It is indeed Diegueño's goal to show all their students that they are an integral part of our school, a necessary element of the larger surrounding community, and valuable citizens of the world.

IN HONOR OF CAROL VIOLA,  
UNITED WAY'S CONGRESSWOMAN  
MARY T. NORTON MEMORIAL  
AWARD WINNER

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol Viola for winning the United Way's Congresswoman Mary T. Norton Memorial Award. The award, which was initiated by United Way of Hudson County in 1990, recognizes those who exhibit a deep commitment to human service as exemplified by Congresswoman Norton during her 13 terms in the House of Representatives (1925-1950). The Congresswoman was a forward-thinker who advocated for government action to help address issues we are still grappling with today, such as day care, fair employment practices, health care for veterans, and inclusion of women in high levels of government service.

Carol Viola has been the cornerstone of support in the Executive Office of the United Way of Tri-State since 1991. The Tri-State United Way conducts the single largest annual workplace campaign in the nation for the benefit of people in need. She began working at Tri-State just four years after it was formed, and she has served the organization's three most recent presidents: Calvin Green, Betty Beene (a 1990 recipient of the Mary T. Norton Award and now President of United Way of America), and Douglas Wams.

Ms. Viola has fulfilled the important responsibility of maintaining and coordinating relationships with United Way of Tri-State's key constituents and stakeholders. These individuals include CEOs and senior executives of Fortune 100 Companies, influential labor leaders and prominent community leaders who serve as Governors and volunteers of Tri-State, and 31 Chief Professional Officers of the participating local United Ways. Through

her commitment to excellence and to people, Carol has provided the support that enabled many busy executives to give their time and talents to United Way and those it serves.

Ms. Viola has been happily married to Joe Crum for 13 years. She manages her mother's household and is active in her church, professional women's organizations, and neighborhood nonprofit organizations.

Carol Viola embodies the life work of Congresswoman Mary T. Norton. On behalf of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I congratulate her for her outstanding service to the community and for carrying on the work of Congresswoman Mary T. Norton.

TRIBUTE TO MANATEE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE, 2000 CHAMBER OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. DAN MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Florida Chamber of Commerce Executives (FCCE) named the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce, their 2000 Chamber of the Year. Through this and many other notable accomplishments, the strength and spirit of the Manatee Chamber embodies the foundations for economic leadership that our community relies upon. The invaluable service of its pro-Florida, pro-business membership continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all of Manatee County.

Through its many ventures in the Manatee area, the Manatee Chamber of Commerce has displayed an innovative and effective approach to business and community relations. This approach has been validated by the Chamber's 87% membership retention record. Not only does the Chamber boast a highly successful Economic Development Council, it also touts a rapidly growing menu of business services, including seminars, workshops and roundtable discussion groups. These, along with countless other services provided by the Chamber, are the attributes that make this body the best of its kind in the state of Florida.

I have had the pleasure to work with several members of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, including the current Chairman Byron Shinn and Immediate Past Chairman Brian Murphy, and can personally testify to the quality of work put forth by the volunteers and staff of this great organization. It makes me proud to have such an outstanding group in Florida's 13th District. I commend the Manatee Chamber of Commerce for its past record and look forward to witnessing its future accomplishments.

MARRIAGE TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of overriding the Clinton/Gore Administration's veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Reconciliation Act pending before the House today, and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting hard working American families by voting "yes" on this override today.

This is about people. It is about families. It is about hard working moms and dads who work from paycheck to paycheck to make ends meet. Why should the government increase their taxes just because they are married? It not only doesn't make sense, it just isn't right.

And this injustice is not affecting just a few American families. According to the Congressional Budget Office, more than 25 million couples pay an average of \$1,400 a year to the IRS just because they are married. This is unconscionable, and it has to stop.

Mr. Speaker, I am tired of the misleading tirade coming from those whose agenda is to keep taxpayers' money in Washington because they want to spend the federal budget surplus on more government bureaucracy. This bill is not tax relief for the rich. The fact is that marriage penalty relief is middle class tax relief because middle-income families are hit the hardest by this penalty. Most marriage penalties occur when the higher-earning spouse makes between \$20,000 and \$75,000 per year, according to the Congressional Budget Office. If these couples had remained single and just lived together they would not be facing this increased tax penalty. And increasing a couple's taxes just because they have chosen to make a commitment to one another in marriage, and work to build a future together, is just plain wrong.

I firmly believe that the tax revenue surplus is the American people's money, not Washington's. We should start giving back some of this tax surplus to families who work hard to put food on the table, clothe their children, pay their taxes, and who are currently forced to sacrifice their family time to earn a little more money to make ends meet.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these hardworking moms and dads and vote "yes" to override the Clinton/Gore veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief bill.

CONGRATULATING GUAM'S PUBLIC TELEVISION STATION, KGTF, ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, there is at least one generation in my district who grew to